

Minutes of the Tuesday, August 3, 2010 CTEC Meeting

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:15 pm on Tuesday, August 3, 2010 at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members K. Abbott, R. Barrett, S. Carroll, P. Collington, F. Esposito, O. Raadam, and Township Resident Shankar Krishnan.

CTEC'S PURPOSE: to undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2010 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building and mentioned on the Chatham Township website at www.chathamtownship.org. It has been sent to the Chatham Courier and Daily Record newspapers. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings, join the discussions and participate in projects.

The Chatham Township Environmental Commission's goal is to provide a responsible environmental viewpoint to Township committees and boards and to undertake projects with a strong educational component in order to inform officials and residents about constructive actions that can be taken to preserve the environment.

O. Raadam motioned to approve CTEC and Green Team minutes from June 1, 2010 and P. Collington 2nd with all in favor, with one minor edit.

CTEC AND GREEN TEAM MEETING DATES FOR 2010 AND JANUARY 2011.

Every first Tuesday, except no meeting in July, at 7:15 PM at the Chatham Township municipal building. The dates are Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1, July no meeting, Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7, 2010 and Jan 11, 2011.

EVENTS

- August 4, Food Inc Movie at Chatham Library 7:30 PM
- Tuesday, September 7, 8 AM. SEAMLESS. Madison Library, Chase Room.
- Date TBA, 10 AM. Ground Water Protection Committee. Willow Hall, Morristown.
- Sat, Sept. 11 - Green Fair of the Chathams 2010 9am to 2pm
- Saturday through Tuesday, October 2-5, 2010. Land Trust Alliance Rally 2010. Hartford, CT. landtrustalliance.org.
- Tuesday, October 5. Ground Water Summit. Hanover Manor in East Hanover. Topic: Road salt.
- Friday, October 15, 2010. ANJEC Environmental Congress, Brookdale Community College, Lincroft. Speakers will include Christopher Daggett, head of the Dodge Foundation and former DEP Commissioner, and Robert Martin, current DEP Commissioner.

GRANTS

- New Jersey American Water awarded a \$5,000 grant to the Community Education and Outreach Committee and an additional grant of \$600 for the purchase of six rain barrels. Congratulations to Pat Collington for writing the grant and staying in contact with New Jersey American.
- CTEC has been granted a free copy of ArcView for 2010 by the ESRI Corporation. Any EC member is welcome to use it.

REPORTS

GREEN TEAM MEETING (convened 7:44 pm – adjourned 7:55 pm)

S. Carroll, Green Team Chair.

- Reviewed and clarified submission process for Sustainable Jersey regarding bronze and silver certification. An increase in points from last years requirements on municipal energy audit from 30 points to 50. Received 6 replies from attachment in June's tax mailing. Received confirmation that Rocket composter grant was received, members signed up for time slots. Green Fair – Steve to contact Toria Williams from CPI regarding table displays. Display will concentrate on water and energy.
- Open Space Committee report. Not available. S. Hoag.
- Planning Board report. Not available. L. Caprioglio.
- Township Committee report. Not available. W. O'Connor.
- Recycling Committee report. Review township recycling system. At this time, CTEC feels that this should not fall under their purview. If asked by twp committee, CTEC will review points of interest.

- Community Education and Outreach Committee report. Work in progress - Rain Barrel Program (Soak It ~ Don't Send It). The Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge will use this Program at its Fenske Visitors Center. Starting July 2010 also the Morris County Parks Commission has requested this Program--the GSOE Center is implementing this program now and Mt Pyramid Park is next. Assisted Public Relations of NJ American Water Co. with education in water protection and conservation and CTEC's receipt of the \$600 NJEA Gift and the NJAW Environmental \$5,000.00. Reduce Use (plastic bottles) and Back To Tap Programs Chair Pat Collington with B2T wrote two applications for NEA Grants for CTEC's "Litterless Lunch" Program and CTEC's "Reduce Use (plastic bottles) Program. CTEC Eco Films & Discussion Series is a very successful program. CTEC and the U.S. EPA: EPS and American Water company selected Chatham Twp for "Water Sense-We're for Water" national campaign event. Campaign started in L.A. Calif and CTEC CE&O Chair Pat Collington was contacted and requested to select two Chatham Twp families to participate in the EPA's national program and televised publicity events. It was Chatham Twp's "green" reputation that made them select Chatham Township and our two families: the Johnson Family and the Abbott Family. See website for televised clips and press coverage.
- Website Committee report. Private site is too new to assess cost and use. Other municipalities are using CTEC's public website and referencing CTEC's information on their webpage. F. Esposito.

DISCUSSION/ACTIONS

- Tree Protection Subcommittee - CTEC discussed and decided that they can not form a subcommittee to assume the duties of the Tree Protection Committee. In some other town's tree oversight is performed by the environmental commission.
- Possible resolution for Township Committee to pass that says that at Township public events, the distribution or sale of bottled water should be avoided or even banned. Commission discussed looking for a model resolution.
- Suggestion to pay membership fee to Passaic River Coalition and Ground Water Protection Committee since Ten Towns Committee dues will no longer be required. Some CTEC members objected.
- Model Wellhead Protection Ordinance. The Passaic River Coalition in cooperation with the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority has developed a model wellhead protection ordinance that they are urging towns to adopt. We can begin discussion of it with the idea of eventually posting it with our thoughts on the CTEC website. Deferred to next meeting.
- Discussion took place regarding water usage at the condominium location where Mr. Barrett resides and other condo locations in town. Mr. Barrett is interested in researching water consumption and comparison with another condo location in town, to work towards water conservation within condominium complexes.

ISSUES

- Ten Towns Committee/Great Swamp Watershed Association ROW vegetation management plan. Ten Towns Committee dissolved on June 30 and turned over some functions to GSWA. K. Abbott and D. Stillinger along with Steve Mountain, Mendham Township Administrator, and members of the GSWA Land Use Committee will meet again with representatives from PSE&G and JCP&L to evaluate progress toward a mutually agreeable plan. Ten Towns Committee/Great Swamp Watershed Association ROW vegetation management plan. **MEETING WAS CANCELLED.**

APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW

NEW. Wetlands Application for GP25 for septic upgrade. V. Liccolella, 489 Green Village Rd. Bl. 48.21 Lot 171, general permit authorization, cutting of trees for placement of building.

NEW. LOI dated 6-18-10 for 342 Green Village Road (B144 L39.04, Shue) for general permit for cutting of trees, placement of pavement. Probably planning to enlarge house. Property backs up to the Township-owned property with the NJCF conservation easement. It is just under a half-acre in the R-2 (1 acre) zone, is within 100 feet or less of a tributary to Black Brook, has septic, front portion is in the flood hazard zone and the back property line is close to wetlands. Access to view the back is easy - walk in to the pond from Green Village Road on Township property, then walk along the Township property line. Any observations would be welcome. Note a possible mounded septic system along the property line of the adjoining lot.

NEW. Application to the Planning Board dated 6-10-10 for minor subdivision for two houses, Bhee Properties, 697 Fairmount Avenue, B 61, L 10, R-3 (half acre) zone. Asking for large variances - for 3 story buildings where 2 1/2 stories are allowed, for major usable lot area reduction, for major steep slope disturbances. Propose Sunset Drive addresses for the new lots. Plans are on top of the CDS plans in our meeting room.

NEW. Application to Board of Adjustment, application complete on 7-22-10, 28 Ormont Road, Block 8, lot 4, Gunn. Steep slope, front & rear yard variances to construct a single family dwelling. Hearing on 9-16-10.

PENDING. Board of Adjustment agenda for August 19 includes two applications we have been tracking: the Farm at Green Village for expansion of a building and construction of a restroom, and the property at 27 Susan Drive with extreme steep slopes. We have commented on the Farm



application and don't have anything new to add.

PENDING. LONGVIEW/FENIX. Longview Road. April 26, 2010. Block 32 Lots 2, 6 and 8, Block 33, Lots 1, 14, 17 and 20. Ronald Gunn concept plan for 8 lot subdivision on Longview Road.

PENDING APPLICATION AND LOI. CHATHAM DAY SCHOOL. 700 Shunpike Road. 4-5-10. Block 135, Lots 1 & 9. Application to DEP for LOI to determine extent of wetlands. Part of lot in southwest area may lie within buffer of wetlands across Shunpike. Letter sent to DEP. Next Board of Adjustment hearing on August 11 at 8 PM.

RECENT LETTERS SENT

- May 2010. Letter to DEP regarding Chatham Day School application for LOI, letter to DEP regarding Texas Eastern application for wetlands permits.
- April 2010. Letter to Township Committee recommending no pesticides on Colony Club Pool lawns. – CTEC is waiting for a response.

MAIL RECEIVED

- Minutes of meetings of Chatham Borough and Long Hill Environmental Commissions.
- Various flyers, notices, and newsletters.

ADJOURN

CTEC MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:00 PM.

Carolyn Scannelli

Minutes Secretary